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9 July 1965

The following comments on Heine were obtained from Ahti Pae in early June 1965.

"In July of 1940 a girl introduced Eerike Heine to Ahti Pae at Valga, Estonia. Pae had previously heard of Heine. Heine said that he had organized in Tartu an anti-communist, secret resistance organization. The membership of this organization consisted of high school students, university students and some young military officers. He asked Ahti Pae to establish chapters of this organization in Valga, Voru, and Torva in Southern Estonia. Heine also asked Pae to maintain contact with him. Pae agreed and it was planned that they would meet again in September of 1940. However, Pae learned that Heine had been arrested by the NKVD in August 1940. The meeting in July 1940 was the only time Pae met Heine. Pae did not meet Heine during the German occupation, 1941-1944, and has not met him personally since that time. (See note)

During his first and only meeting with Pae in July 1940, Heine impressed Pae as being a fanatic patriot who was willing to risk his life for his country. Heine had already participated in several anti-communist demonstrations in Tartu and said that he was under NKVD surveillance. He had bitter feelings toward the older generation for allowing the Soviet Red Army to occupy Estonia without offering any armed resistance and for not distributing arms to the patriotic youth. Heine advised Pae to infiltrate the local Komsomol with his group. The resistance movement needed arms and Heine had heard that members of the Komsomol would receive arms. Pae and several members of his group became members of the Komsomol.

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Pae was arrested by the NKVD in December 1940 at Moisakula while returning from Viljandi to Valga. He underwent several days of questioning at Moisakula, Valga and Tartu because an anti-communist parody of the Soviet national anthem, International, had been found in a book he was carrying. Evidently Heine had not told the NKVD of his connection with Pae and the latter was not questioned about any contact he might have had with him.

Pae thought that Heine was about 18-19 years old when he met him in 1940. At this time Pae, himself, was 20.

In 1962 Pae sent Heine a letter from Sweden via Pae's son (or Pae's wife's son) asking Heine to assist the boy, who was going to attend an Estonian Boy Scout camp in Canada. The boy met Heino and delivered the letter. However, the boy had relatives in Canada who took care of him and Heine's help was not needed. Heine evidently was not eager to provide help in the first place.

In either 1963 or 1964 Heine wrote Pae asking his help in promoting the film, Creators of Legend, which Heine had produced in Sweden. Pae stated that he had a guilty conscience since he has not yet answered Heine's request. The film was shown in several cities and towns in Sweden under the auspices of the Estonian National Fund in Sweden.

Elmar Keerl, one of the witnesses for Heine in the case of Heine vs. Raus, wrote Ahti Pae. Pae had also heard previously from the U.S. that Heine was suspected of being a Soviet spy. Pae had found it difficult to believe that such a patriot as Heine would become a Soviet spy, although there may be some conflicting evidence in Heine's story about himself. Pae had also read the books by Viirlaid which describes Heine's adventures.

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Voldemar Kures, an Estonian journalist who spent several months in the U.S. and Canada at the end of 1964 and beginning of 1965, told Pae that "Heine is not a good man," and advised Pae not to have any further contact with him (Heine).

At the Conference of Estonian Central Organizations in Europe on April 24-25, 1965 at Lüneburg, Arnold Joonson, editor of Voitleja, told Pae that the basis for suspicion of Heine is the fact that two Latvians, who had come to West Germany from the USSR at the same time as and in the same group with Heine, have given themselves up as Soviet spies while Heine still maintains that he is not a Soviet agent.

Comment: It should be noted that Pae recalls meeting Heine only once (in 1940) while Heine stated that he had seen Pae upon his return to Estonia from Germany in 1942 (page 311 of deposition).